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Our Supreme Court Candidates

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WILBUR McCLURE ALTER



ROBERT HICKMAN WALKER

Our Supreme Court Candidates

HASLETT PLATT BURKE

Haslett Platt Burke, Justice of the Supreme Court and candidate for reelection on the Republican ticket, was born April 28, 1874, in Monona County, Iowa. He grew to manhood on a farm in Shelby County in that state, graduated from the High School at Harlan, Iowa, in 1893, read law in the office of Byers & Lockwood there, and was admitted to the bar in Iowa June 22, 1896, and in Colorado, July 15, following. He returned to his native state in the fall of that year, taught school, practiced law, volunteered in a company of the U. S. Signal Corps and served during the Spanish-American war; returned to Rocky Ford, Colorado, and in December, 1899, located at Sterling where he has since resided. He served two years as clerk of the District Court of Logan County, was elected Judge of the Thirteenth District at the age of thirty-two and served two years. For the past three

years he has been President of the Board of Trustees of Clayton College and lecturer on constitutional law in the Law School of Denver University. He is a member of the Bar Association of the Thirteenth District and of the Denver, State, and American Bar Associations. He is a member of the B. P. O. E., of the K. P. and of the I. O. R. M. He is a thirty-third degree Mason of the Scottish Rite and was Grand Master of Masons in Colorado in 1920-21. He was elected a Justice of the Supreme Court in 1918, was Chief Justice in 1927, and is now next to the youngest member of that tribunal in years and next to the oldest in judicial service. He has written many of the court's important opinions, perhaps the most notable being *Peo. v. Max* and *Peo. v. Western Union*, 70 Colo. 90-100, which wiped from our state constitution the "recall of judicial decisions" amendment as contrary to the federal constitution.

JOHN H. VOORHEES

John H. Voorhees, of Pueblo, Democratic candidate for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, is an Ohioan by birth, having been born upon a farm in that state.

He attended the National Normal University at Lebanon in Ohio, graduating with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He also attended the Central Indiana College at Danville, Indiana, graduating from that institution with the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Civil Engineer.

His early manhood he devoted to work in the educational field, and in the course of this he occupied the chair of Higher Mathematics in Campbell University at Holton, Kansas. In 1886 he came to Colorado and, continuing his work as an educator, became principal of Centennial High School at Pueblo and Superintendent of North side schools in that city.

In 1887 he left the educational field and became associated as a civil engineer in the organization and development of the large irrigation projects of the Arkansas Valley. Along with this work, however, he had been, from 1881 on, systematically reading and studying law, with the ultimate object of entering that profession. Part of this legal work was done in the offices of John C. Slayback, at Hamilton, Ohio, and part in the offices of A. B. Patton, at Pueblo, Colorado. In 1890 he realized this further ambition by being admitted to the Colorado Bar.

Upon his admission to the Bar, he devoted himself especially to the practice of irrigation law, but interrupted this to accept the appointment as District Judge for the Tenth Judicial District in 1893, in which capacity he served in able manner until January, 1907. At that time he returned to private practice, again specializing in matters of irrigation law, and through his ability and great capacity for hard

work soon built up a most substantial practice. In addition to his professional interests, he is a large farm owner and operator and is a keen student of agricultural matters and farm economics.

JULIAN H. MOORE

Julian H. Moore, of Denver, candidate on the Republican ticket for election to the office of Justice of the Supreme Court, is a native Coloradoan. He was born in Denver, February 24, 1882, the son of the late Bishop David H. Moore of the Methodist Episcopal Church, who was the first chancellor of the University of Denver.

He received his preliminary education in the Denver schools, and later attended the University of Denver, where he graduated from the College of Liberal Arts in 1905 and from the Law School in 1907.

For four years, from 1908 to 1912, he served as Assistant District Attorney for Denver, and in 1913 became Assistant City Attorney, in which capacity he served for two years. The idea of a judicial career had strong appeal for him and, after a short period in private practice, he yielded to this appeal and, in January of 1917, accepted the appointment from Governor Carlson to the District Bench for the Second Judicial District, to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of the late George W. Allen to the Supreme Court bench. At the next general election he was elected, not only to complete Judge Allen's unexpired term but for a further full term as well, and again in the general election of 1924 he was re-elected to this office, which he has since continued in and now occupies. In point of service, this renders him one of the oldest judges in the state, though still a comparatively young man.

He has established himself as one of the ablest men who have sat upon

the district bench, and his efficient and speedy dispatch of the business of his court has earned him the respect and approval of both litigants and members of the Bar who have appeared before him.

Judge Moore is a member of the Colorado and the Denver Bar Associations, of Beta Theta Pi, national college fraternity, of Phi Delta Phi, national legal fraternity, and of the Denver Athletic Club.

If elected, Judge Moore will have the distinction of being the first native Coloradoan to hold the office of Justice of the Supreme Court.

SAMUEL W. JOHNSON

Judge Samuel W. Johnson, candidate for the office of Justice of the Supreme Court on the Democratic ticket, was born in Iowa, in 1872, and came to Colorado in 1881. He received educational training in the public schools of Jefferson County and East Denver High School. He studied law in the office of F. T. Johnson in Denver for three years and took the bar examination before the Supreme Court when 21 years old. He was admitted to practice law by the Supreme Court in 1894 and continued in active practice until elected District Judge. In 1909 he was appointed Deputy District Attorney of Jefferson County under Walter M. Morgan. His first cases were the prosecution of owners of the White City for running an open saloon on Sunday, a long, hard but successful litigation. He was the prime mover and persistent worker in prosecuting and bringing to justice Angelino Gorumone, for the murder of Mrs. LaGuardia in the mountains near Golden. In 1912 he was elected District Attorney of the First District, and was re-elected in 1916. He prosecuted a large number of cases, among them being several convictions for murder.

The case of most public interest in

which he contended with the underworld of Denver for more than a year, was that of the robbery of Father Burke at the Model Road House.

Before serving his full term as District Attorney, he was elected District Judge of the same district. He served a term as Judge and was re-elected in 1924, and is now serving in that office. The District is comprised of the three counties surrounding Denver and two mountain counties. It is a territory of diversified interests and has produced cases of interest in almost every branch of the law.

He has presided at the trials of many famous criminal cases, including those of *People vs. Dr. Blazer*, for killing his daughter, the "human husk girl"; *People vs. Hill*, for killing his step-daughter; *People vs. Mitchell*, for killing his paramour; *People vs. Mandell*, for wrecking the Hibernia Bank; *People vs. Winnie Young*, for bank robbery; *People vs. Wilder*, hotly contested liquor manufacturing case; *People vs. Patton*, for murder; and *People vs. Little*, for murder.

Among the many civil cases he has heard are the Moffat Tunnel District case, the case of the condemnation of the new Denver Court House site, the Castlewood Irrigation District case, and the Denver Recall Charter Amendment case.

He has often held court in Denver, aiding the courts with heavy dockets, and is well known to the Denver Bar.

WILBUR MCCLURE ALTER

Wilbur McClure Alter is the candidate of the Republican party for the short term as Justice of the Supreme Court. He is now one of the Judges of the District Court for the Fourth Judicial District. Judge Alter was born in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, on December 17th, 1879. He came to Colorado in 1893, and has resided in this state continuously since that time. He

was educated in the schools of Colorado. He attended public school at Littleton, and took his pre-college work in the Warren Academy of the University of Denver. He was graduated from the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Denver, with the degree of A. B. in 1903, and from the University of Denver Law School with the degree of LL.B. in 1906. His education was obtained entirely through his own efforts. He is a member of the Beta Theta Pi and Phi Delta Phi fraternities.

Judge Alter was engaged in the practice of law for over fifteen years at Cripple Creek. While there, in addition to his general practice, he occupied the offices of City Attorney, Deputy District Attorney and County Attorney. In January, 1923, he was appointed District Judge to succeed the late Justice Sheafor, who was then elevated to the Supreme Court bench. At the general election in 1924, Judge Alter was elected to his present position. For the first time in the history of the district, the election of a district judge was unopposed.

He enlisted in the United States Army in 1918, and served over seas for more than a year in B Company, 303 Battalion Heavy Tank Corps, and the 19th Motor Transport Corps. He is a member of the Masonic Order, B. P. O. Elks, the American Legion, the El Paso County Bar Association and the Colorado Bar Association. He is married and resides with his wife and two sons at Colorado Springs.

ROBERT HICKMAN WALKER

Robert Hickman Walker, of Denver, is the Democratic candidate for election to the Colorado Supreme Court for the short term. He is at present a member of that Court, having been appointed last February by Governor Adams, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Justice John W. Sheafor.

Justice Walker was born July 19th, 1886, at Marion, Ky., where he was educated in the public schools, and later attended Kentucky University. In 1903 his family moved to Colorado, where his father engaged in the real estate and newspaper business, and was postmaster at Grand Junction for eight years. His brother Walter Walker, entered the newspaper business, and later acquired the ownership of the Grand Junction Sentinel, building it up until it is now the largest newspaper on the western slope. Justice Walker began his legal training at the Denver University Law School, in 1907. He graduated in 1909, cum laude, and receiving the highest honor of the school, the faculty prize. During this year he took the State bar examination, and passed with the highest grade of that year's applicants for admission. He practiced in Delta until 1912, when he removed to Grand Junction where he remained until 1922. While in Grand Junction he was deputy district attorney in 1914-15, and county attorney from 1916 to 1920. In 1912, he married Jessie Lace, the daughter of John J. Lace, a Methodist minister of Grand Junction. They have three children. Justice Walker moved with his family to Denver in 1922, at which time he entered into partnership with A. L. Doud, and the firm of Doud and Walker was among the most widely and favorably known in this city and state, until its dissolution on the appointment of Hickman Walker to the Supreme Bench.

Justice Walker is a member of the Denver and Colorado Bar Associations, and a member of the Colorado Advisory Committee of the American Law Institute.

"The greatest trust between man and man is the trust of counsel."—*Francis Bacon*.